



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**FLORIDA CROP PROGRESS &
CONDITION REPORT**



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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Released: April 21, 2014 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: April 20, 2014

Wet Conditions Slow Field Work

Weather Summary: According to Florida’s Automated Weather Network (FAWN), the State received between one quarter inch and almost nine inches of rain. Defuniak Springs (Walton County) received the most rain with 8.6 inches. Maximum temperatures ranged from 76 to 90 degrees, with five locations recording the high temperature of 90 degrees. The lowest temperatures in the State ranged from 36 degrees in DeFuniak Springs (Walton County) to 64 degrees in Wellington (West Palm Beach County).

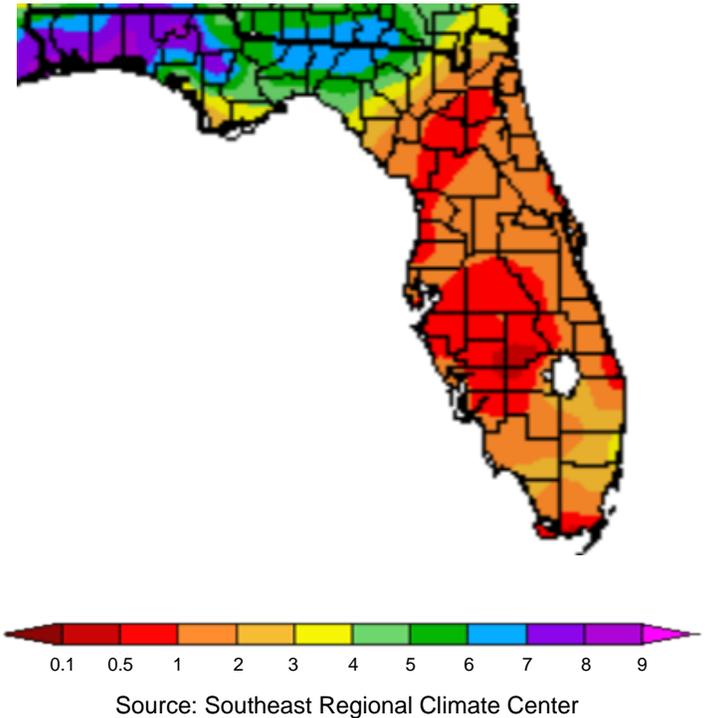
Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	4	0
Short	20	31	21
Adequate	75	62	70
Surplus	5	3	9

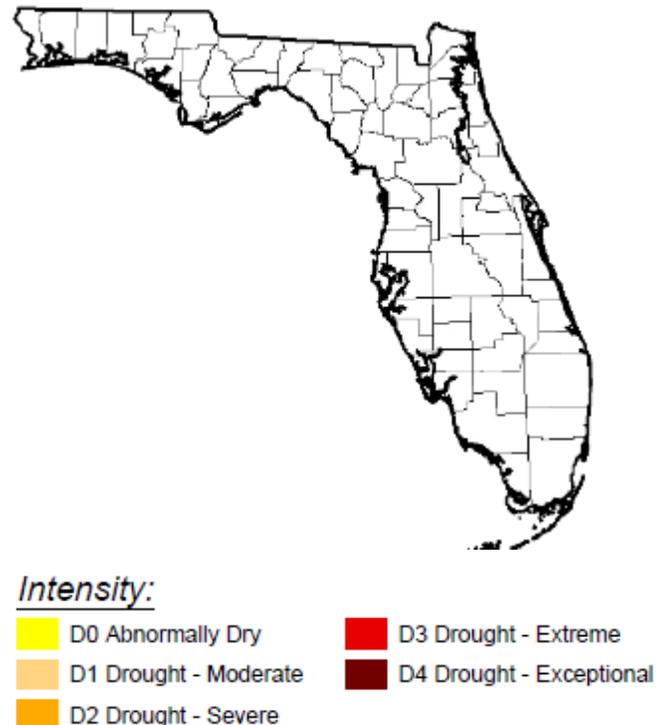
Field Crop: In the Panhandle most soil was completely saturated, bringing field work to a standstill. Gulf County farmers were able to harvest wheat and oats. Jackson County farmers started planting field corn but were not able to finish due to wet fields. In north Florida, Madison County farmers continued planting field corn and peanuts. In Palm Beach County, sugarcane harvest was nearing its completion and rice was being planted.

Fruit and Vegetables: Watermelon planting was finished in Levy County. Flagler and Putnam county farmers started harvesting potatoes. Blueberry and watermelon harvest moved into high gear in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, and Hendry counties. Crops being planted in Miami-Dade County were okra, sweet potatoes, and Asian vegetables. Miami-Dade County farmers were harvesting boniato, eggplant, green beans, yellow squash, peppers, sweet corn, tomatoes, and zucchini. Vegetables and fruits coming to market in the southwest were beets, blueberries, cabbage, collards, cucumbers, eggplant, herbs, lettuce, peppers, snap beans, and specialty items.

Precipitation (in)–Florida: April 14-20, 2014



U.S. Drought Monitor–Florida: April 15, 2014



Citrus: All monitored stations in the citrus region received rainfall this past week. The most was in Saint Lucie West (Saint Lucie County) at just over three inches; the least was in Joshua (DeSoto County), at under a quarter of an inch. Daytime temperatures were warm, reaching the upper 80s to lower 90s in all citrus producing counties. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated April 15, 2014, no drought exists within the citrus growing area.

Even with rainfall over the last several weeks, due to the heat, greening, and chemical spraying, some defoliation has been observed in trees in the southern counties. The bloom is over and small pea size fruit is apparent in most areas. Some growers were reporting a good fruit set for next season’s crop.

Owners were pushing dead or declining blocks and replanting in several areas across the citrus region. Hedging and topping has been steady and many growers have completed or are finishing up for this time of year.

Processing plants were primarily running Valencia oranges with a few running grapefruit. Several packinghouses have finished for the season, some have transitioned to gift fruit packing only.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	April 6, 2014	April 13, 2014	April 20, 2014
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early & mid oranges	0	0	0
Valencia	3,833	5,461	4,832
Navel oranges	2	2	3
White Grapefruit	381	345	199
Colored Grapefruit.....	350	239	181
Temples	3	3	0
Tangelos	1	1	0
Sunburst.....	1	0	2
Honey Tangerines	51	36	31
Total.....	4,622	6,087	5,248

Livestock and Pastures: Pastures remain wet in the Panhandle for another week. Frequent rains have benefited livestock producers with a good grazing season in the south. The cattle condition for the State was primarily good but the pasture condition was mostly fair.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	0	0	1	1
Poor	4	4	10	10
Fair.....	35	33	52	48
Good	58	60	33	37
Excellent.....	3	3	4	4

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